

LOCAL NEWS.

Enterprise and thrift does not receive much encouragement from the capitalists in our community.

It is said that attorneys defending persons charged with murder these times, want to put off trials until after the hanging season is over.

There is a new name on High street which we suggest would be a good one to give out to the next spelling school.

The Cole Senatorial District has as able a representation in the Constitutional Convention as any other District in the State. The represent the extremes of politics, but are both devoted to the material interests of the District.

We have news from Clark township that most of the wheat is looking well and will yield an average crop. Oats never looked finer and a large crop is expected. Much of the corn is being re-planted, on account of the cut worms. Considerable wheat is still in the hands of farmers who are waiting for high prices.

It is known to a few that the Adjutant-General is away on important business, and it is probable that persons of high standing in the Democratic party will sooner or later be brought before the people (and it is to be hoped to justice) as criminals who have basely attempted to rob the tax-payers of the State of their earnings. The persons referred to, we imagine, are to be found principally in the cities of St. Louis, St. Joseph and Kansas City, and possibly at the Seat of Government. We note that the St. Joe. Gazette ridicules the arrival and business of the official named, in that city.

Murder in Oregon County.

Oregon county has another sensation. This time it is a murder. It appears that a man named Joseph Rush, supposed to be from Trigg county, Kentucky, was traveling through the country and was invited by one David Davis, who lives in the southeast corner of Oregon county, to stay with him over night. In the morning Rush was missing, and several suspicious circumstances, added to the bad character of Davis, led to his suspicion and arrest for the murder of Rush. A young man named Willis Lard, who has been living with Davis, was arrested as an accomplice. The neighbors say they heard cries of murder in the night, and heard Davis' wife singing loudly, as if to drown the cries. In the morning Davis was seen paddling about drifts in the Eleven Points River, and his actions confirmed the suspicions of the neighbors that Rush had been foully dealt with. Davis says Rush left early in the morning, but does not explain the noises heard by the neighbors or his own suspicious conduct. The body of Rush had not been discovered at last accounts, but the people are confident that it is sunk in the river.

Davis is a half Indian, and bears a bad character. It is believed that he has been concerned in several murders. Lard is a young man, a cripple, and except for his association with Davis, is not particularly noted. Both of them are now in jail, waiting their trial which will come off at the special July term of the Oregon county circuit court.—West Plains Journal.

Editorial Convention.

The Missouri Press Association met in convention at Booneville yesterday, and was moderately attended.

The annual address, a very able paper, was delivered by Col. Mark Demotte, of the Lexington Register, after which G. W. Ferrell, of the Booneville Advertiser, read a very pretty poem, both of which will appear in the Sunday Morning Bazaar.

Macon City was selected as the next place of meeting, and the time fixed on the second Tuesday in June, 1876.

Last night the citizens of Booneville tendered to the editorial fraternity, their wives, daughters and sweethearts present, a grand banquet and ball which was well attended, and heartily participated in by all.

The hospitality of the Boonevillians is already State wide, and their action yesterday and last night only served to increase that reputation as they did most royally and sumptuously entertain their guests on this occasion. Prominent citizens with their wives and daughters were in attendance to lend a hand in making the evening pleasant for the quill drivers.

The slim attendance can only be accounted for by the grasshoppers and the scarcity of money. We shall hope on until the press association of Missouri is a permanent and thorough business organization.

Very appropriately, all excursions were abandoned.—Bazoo.

For the State Journal.

Flippant Doing.

MR. EDITOR: The following appears in the Tribune of yesterday:

Prof. Riley, like other sensible men, has no respect for the flippant criticisms of Gov. Hardin's proclamation, but recognizes the fact that it has called attention to the facts, and brought about such consideration of the situation, as will result in the best means of mitigating the evil, and reassuring the people, and to this extent, at least, the Governor's proclamation has done good service.

It may be inferred from this that the people are not going to rely on prayer to get rid of the grasshoppers. This speaks well for the intelligence of the people. If Gov. Hardin's proclamation recommending the people to pray, was designed to set them to work by other means, we get a very good idea of the gubernatorial view of the use of prayer. Its employment was merely a piece of strategy to stir up the people a little. It is a question, however, whether a report to prayer for such a purpose, is not too flippant to suit the religious convictions of many earnest Christians.

PRACTICAL.

Mr. Editor:

Men change their religion very slowly—much more slowly than their social customs or governmental polity. From this tenacity of religious belief, it has resulted that there has never been a civilization without a contemporary religion containing much that was foreign to its spirit, and incompatible with its knowledge. We know enough of the anti-classical religions, such as the Egyptian, Chaldean, Phenician, &c., to excite our surprise that the nations practicing them, could attain the degree of civilization which they did without casting out their revolting barbarisms. But with the classical, or Greek and Latin civilizations and religions, we are much more familiar, and we cannot study them without becoming possessed with astonishment that the two could exist together.

The pure and lofty theology of Plato, is utterly irreconcilable with the childish and immoral religion of Plato's countrymen. That religion bears abundant traces of an origin in an age when morality was not necessarily an attribute of Divinity. There was very little morality among the personages of the Greek pantheon. They entered Greek civilization each with a history more or less abounding in deeds of violence and crime; and they lived to its end, substantially the same immoral beings. Among the learned few of the Greeks there existed a tacit dissatisfaction with the gross conceptions of the ignorant many; but this ignorant many carried unchanged into a high civilization the same religion of which we catch a glimpse in their long previous semi-barbarism. Homer and St. Paul are supposed to have lived some 12 or fifteen centuries apart; and yet Homer sang and Paul preached to a people of the same faith. The advance in everything except religion had been immense—that remained stationary.

The same is true of the Roman religion. The Roman people, in their palmy days, when their poets, orators, lawyers, statesmen and philosophers were furnishing the literature for the first fifteen centuries of Christianity never rose above the worship of Romulus the man who was said to have founded their city; nor did their civilization enable them to purge their religion of its system of angury and other absurdities, which had come into it during the ages of their early ignorance. It is difficult for a reader of Cicero to realize that he lived at a time when the calendar was filled with lucky and unlucky days, and when he could not walk a single block, perhaps, in the imperial city of which he was such an ornament, without seeing a group of priests standing around a dead ox trying to get an insight into future events by examining its entrails.

The same is true, to a certain extent, of Christianity. Whatever it might have been, as received from the Apostles and practiced by the primitive Christians, it is certain that after it became semi-theatricalized by being made the state religion of the Roman empire, it became, in the course of three or four centuries perfectly fitted to Medieval barbarism. From this condition it has emerged very slowly, always fighting tenaciously to retain the slightest vestige of whatever attached to it during the days of its degradation. The most powerful sect of Christians is at this very time being summoned by its spiritual guides to a fresh crusade for the restoration of an authority in temporal affairs consistent only with the state of society in the barbarous age from whence it sprang. But on the whole, Christianity has greatly improved by its contact with modern civilization, and in this, it has shown itself infinitely superior to the ancient religions. It is casting out—very slowly indeed—but still it is casting out what it borrowed from them.

There is one thing in Christianity, characteristic of every previous religion of which we have any knowledge, which educated Christians have long since advanced beyond, but which still clings, with tenacious hold, to the belief of the ignorant, whether priests or laymen. It is the anthropomorphic conception of a God. God is to them merely a big man. They conceive him as standing outside the universe which he has created somewhat in the manner in which a brickmaker makes a kiln of bricks, and superintending its operation by personal attendance, about as an engineer superintends a steam engine. And when a student of nature, with a conception of a creative power infinitely super-human in all respects, can not forbear a smile, perhaps, at the human attributes with which ignorance invests a God, ignorance calls him a scoffer of religion. No man of ordinary intelligence scoffs at religion; but it is human nature to laugh at a burlesque whether of religion or any thing else. A writer in the Tribune, whose God is evidently a big man, says that all the scoffers are in the radical party, which would imply that all the religious mountbains are in the democratic party. If this be true it would indicate a preponderance of ignorance in the democratic party, which is not improbable. But the same writer insists that the proclamation is a Christian thing, and he may be right.

There seems to be no necessity however, for excluding Jews and Chinese. The former will pray to the God of the Christians, in whose name Christians have so long persecuted them; and the latter can do no harm by importuning their Jews. Their prayers will not injure Christianity, although they may be a source of annoyance to a few self-styled Christians. Their God is the same big man as that of the ignorant Christian—only a little more naughty, that is all.

There is as strong a contrast between the civilization of a people who have mastered and set to work the forces of nature, and a religion which treats the God of nature as a big man, who only needs a little coaxing to kill grasshoppers, as between the civilizations and religions pointed out above. Many Christians have already advanced beyond such folly, and it is a good sign that they laugh at being called scoffers. Let them laugh in peace.

CHRISTIAN.

The new waterproof cloaks for girls are Ulsters, with a belt in the back, several pockets, double breasted fronts buttoned their full length, and a folded pointed hood.

For the State Journal.

Religious Barbarism.

DEATH IN DOUGLAS COUNTY.

One Man Killed, one Mortally and one Slightly Wounded.

Last Tuesday a rider from Richland township, Douglas county, arrived in town in search of a doctor. He said that on last Monday night two young men named Moser, were waylaid on their return from a deer lick and shot, one of them being instantly killed, and the other slightly wounded. The wounded man escaped into the brush and reached a neighbor's house. Also, that the next morning one Ben. Dale, somewhat known in these parts, was shot, and mortally wounded, by J. H. Cunningham, better known as Ham Cunningham, the constable of Richland township.

Dr. Shuttles returned from the scene of the troubles last night, and informs us that the statement as to the dead and wounded is correct; that Dale will die. The Doctor gave us the following particulars: The young Moser who was wounded escaped through the brush, and reached a neighbor's house. As he approached the house he discovered that the party of bushwhackers had preceded him, and were concealed near the house. He was suffered to pass in, and on entering he found Ben. Dale, who having reason to believe that he was an object to the party in ambush, escaped by a back door into the woods, and proceeded to alarm the neighborhood.

Early the next morning a large crowd had gathered, to whom young Moser detailed the circumstances, and declared that Ham Cunningham, Zair Collins and a man named Meadows were with the party doing the shooting. Cunningham and the others prove an alibi.

The shooting of Dale is somewhat mixed. He says that Zack Collins and himself went to Cunningham's house to get him to go for a justice and impanel a jury of inquest. That as they approached the house a dog barked so savagely as to suggest the drawing of their revolvers; that they halted, and Mrs. Cunningham opened the door and invited them in, and that as he stepped up to the door Cunningham fired without warning, the shot striking him in the breast. Cunningham then snapped at Collins, who fled.

This story of Dale's will not bear too close an inspection. That he should go on such an errand to Cunningham's after hearing young Moser's story of the shooting of his brother and himself, is, to say the least, very improbable. And his tale about the revolvers is also improbable.

Cunningham's story is as follows: He says that Dale has threatened to kill him on several occasions, and that when he saw Dale and Collins approaching his house with their revolvers in their hands, and making threats, he supposed they intended to execute Dale's threat, and therefore as Dale stepped to the door he fired on him, and snapped at Collins.

The people in that section are about equally divided on the matter, and feeling is strong on both sides. Threats are freely made, and it is extremely probable that more shooting will be done before the matter is settled.

No reason is given for the killing of Moser, who is said to have been a quiet and well disposed young man. Dale we know by reputation to be a hard case. J. H. Cunningham we have known for two or three years, and can not believe him capable of a cold blooded murder.

It is probable that the true story of the troubles will never be known out side of the parties interested.—West Plains Journal.

The Servants Among the Turks.

The Sultan of Turkey is one of the unfortunate men of the earth. He has only six thousand servants to wait upon him, and yet he is worried to death to get what he wants at the right time and expeditiously. The consequence is that when he wants anything done in a great hurry, he is compelled to do it himself and not wait till his waiters are done quarreling about whose duty it is to do what his honor demands at that particular time. The great difficulty seems to be to so divide up the work of his large establishment as to know upon whom to call to do certain things that require attention in this immense household. When he wants his boots blacked it is a question whether it is the duty of the barber or the hostler to see that this menial service is performed, and the hostler and the barber stand upon their rights and will not yield. The sultan is seeking vigorously to solve this difficulty, and has already beheaded 2,000 recalcitrant men and women servants, and intends to pursue this determined policy until he sees whether the balance of his people will not awaken to a sense of the necessity of complying with his demands.

Starvation Near Sedalia, Mo.

CINCINNATI, O., May 24.—There is reported to be much suffering among the poorer classes in the neighborhood of Sedalia, Mo., and many families are in want of food. Three children of a family named Findlay died of starvation on Friday last. A meeting of citizens has been called to obtain relief for the sufferers.

We clip the above from the New York World of the 25th inst. While it is true that news seems easier learned abroad than at home, we should regret to find that this statement is true. Of course there are poor people in Sedalia, as there is in every locality; but can it be possible that in the midst of wealth and plenty, there is also starvation? For the good name of the State, as well as of the city, we call upon the benevolent of Sedalia, that they stir themselves, and see that no more reports like that above find their way to the World.

Aid for the Destitute.

The following dispatch explains itself: SEDALIA, Mo., May 27, 1875, Hon. J. LaDue, Senator: You are authorized to state to chairman of Relief Committee that the M. K. & T. Railroad will transport, free of charge, all articles or supplies for the suffering and destitute on its line of road. Such shipment to be vouchered for by some one duly authorized by said committee or its chairman.

R. S. STEVENS, General Manager.

The latest importations of French millinery are large bonnets with flat crowns.

CONVENTION OF 1875.

TWENTIETH DAY.

Prayer by Rev. C. C. Woods, of the M. E. Church, South.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

Mr. Broadhead offered a resolution authorizing Messrs. Walbridge, Holland & Co., shorthand reporters, to write out their report. Adopted.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Hon. H. J. Spaunhorst in the chair.

The question pending being section 26 of the Bill of Rights reported from the committee; 28. That all persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except in capital cases where the presumption of guilt is great.

Mr. Johnson offered an amendment striking out all after the word "sureties." Lost.

Mr. Lay offered as a substitute the following: That all persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, where the proof is evident or the presumption great.

Mr. Todd offered an amendment to the amendment providing that in cities of 100,000 inhabitants no practicing lawyer shall be received as bail.

Mr. Conway offered an amendment to the amendment striking out so much of the same as limits its operation to St. Louis. Lost.

Mr. Shanklin opposed the idea of descending from the business of the Constitution making to that of legislation.

Mr. Todd pointed out the abuses which arise from accepting lawyers as bail for their clients in St. Louis.

Mr. Pinkin pointed out that it was not improper to take lawyer on a bail bond if he was a good man. The wrong done by taking slysters for secretaries was no reason for excluding all good men from becoming bail. He agreed with Mr. Shanklin concerning the business of the Convention.

Mr. Shackelford offered an amendment to the amendment by which all officers of courts of record shall be excluded from becoming bail.

Mr. McAfee thought any person accused of crime should have all the world to go to for bail.

Mr. Gottschalk pointed out that the object aimed at was provided for by statute, (sec. 22, page 1205 Wagner's statutes.)

Amendments offered by Mr. Shackelford and Mr. Todd were lost.

Mr. Conway offered an amendment so that section would read:

"That all persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, except in capital cases." Lost.

The amendment, as amended by Mr. Lay, adopted.

To section 27, Mr. Hale offered the following substitute:

"That excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted." Adopted.

For section 28, "That the privilege of habeas corpus shall never be suspended," Mr. Broadhead offered the following amendment, by adding "except when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it." Lost.

Section 28 adopted.

To section 29, to-wit: That the military shall always be in strict subordination to the civil power; that no soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

Mr. Boone offered an amendment so that same shall read as follows:

29. That the military shall always be in strict subordination to the civil power; that no soldier shall be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner. Lost.

Mr. Lackland offered an amendment, adding to section, "nor can any appropriation be made for the support of an army for a longer period than two years. Lost.

Mr. Johnson offered an amendment striking out all after the word power in second line. Lost.

Section 29 was adopted as reported.

Mr. Fyan moved to strike out section 30: "That the limitations imposed on the State of Missouri, in common with her sister states, by the Federal Constitution, are cheerfully acquiesced in, and so far as possible, are becoming for the State of Missouri, to enact as part of her organic law and provisions which are already and by authority superior to her, part of the supreme law of the land, are hereby declared to be incorporated in this constitution." Agreed to.

Mr. Pulitzer offered the following substitute for the section:

"30. That the limitations imposed on the State of Missouri, in common with her sister states, by the Federal Constitution, are cheerfully accepted by her people."

Mr. Taylor, of Jasper, offered an amendment striking out the word "cheerfully."

Mr. Hale offered as an amendment to the substitute, the following: That the State of Missouri is, and ought to remain, a member of the American Union, that said Union was intended to be perpetual, and that no constitutional right exists either in the State or Federal Government to dissolve said Union or to impair said compact.

The proposition was debated at length.

Mr. Holliday moved to recommend the reference of the pending questions the Committees on Federal Relations. Motion lost.

Amendment to substitute offered by Mr. Hale was voted down.

Mr. Pulitzer, by leave of the convention, withdrew his substitute.

Committee rose and asked leave to sit again. Leave to committee to sit Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock a. m.

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Spaunhorst offered a resolution to print the Bill of Rights as amended in the Committee of the Whole. Adopted.

Mr. Adams offered as an amendment to the Bill of Rights:

That the right of trial by jury, as heretofore engaged, ought to remain inviolate. But a jury

for trial of criminal or civil cases, in courts of record, may consist of less than twelve men as may be prescribed by law. Hereafter a grand jury shall consist of twelve men, any nine of whom concurring, may find an indictment or a true bill, and it shall be the duty of the grand jury in each county, at least once a year to investigate the official acts of all officers, handling public funds and report the same to the court.

Read and referred to Committee on Bill of Rights.

By Mr. Crews: That no money shall be drawn from the treasury, but consequence of appropriations made by law, and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

Ordered printed and referred.

Mr. Lackland: That no title of nobility, or hereditary emolument privilege, or destruction can be granted; that the people have the right peaceably to assemble for their common good and apply to those vested with powers of government for redress of grievances, by petition or remonstrance.

Ordered printed and referred.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. on the report of the Committee on Representation and Representative and Senatorial Districts.

Hon. P. Pipkin in the chair.

The reports of the committee were discussed at length.

Adjourned.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

FRIDAY, May 28.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Dullin, President of Stephens College, Columbia.

Journal read and approved.

Mr. Mortel of St. Louis submitted a proposition to abolish capital punishment for murder; to punish murder by imprisonment for life in the penitentiary; to prohibit the exercise of the pardoning power in cases of imprisonment for life; to preserve a full and complete report of all the evidence in the case of a murder trial as a part of the records of the court; to make the discovery of new facts tending to show the innocence of the prisoner, the basis of a new trial by order of the Supreme Court; to make such trial take place without delay; to make all the certified copies of the evidence in the former trial admissible in the new trial; to require the prisoner's discharge upon an acquittal and new trial.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON REPRESENTATION.

Hon. A. M. Alexander in the chair.

Debate on the question of representation was resumed.

It was opened by Mr. Fyan who favored the majority report, (heretofore published) as a compromise. The doctrine advanced by Mr. Switzer (in his speech of last evening) that population and property should be the basis of representation, was the disfranchisement of the sparsely populated counties of the State. He thought such a doctrine came with a poor grace from the representative of Boone.

Mr. Shackelford favored the majority report. Mr. Letcher favored the Illinois plan of representation.

Mr. Todd spoke at length in support of the minority report.

Mr. Dysart, of Macon, favored some plan that would give equal representation—representation founded on population. It could be accomplished by districting the State. In such a manner the member of representatives could be reduced, and kept down, and this was necessary to economy.

Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again, 2 o'clock.

SWORN IN.

Mr. Lay presented the credentials of Hon. H. B. Johnson, delegate elected to the convention from the 27th (Cole) District.

Mr. Johnson came forward and took the oath of office, administered by Judge Fyan.

Mr. Crews presented a communication from Mr. Alexander, of St. Louis, on the subject of charities and penal institutions.

Referred to Committee on Miscellaneous Provisions.

Adjourned.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Mr. Crews offered an amendment to the majority report by adding the following: Amend the minority report by striking out all after the 9th line of section one, and insert the following: "Giving one additional member for every two and a half ratios. Provided, that any county having a population less than seven-eighths of a ratio short of two ratios shall be entitled to two representatives, and any county having a population less than seven-eighths of a ratio short of three and a half ratios shall be entitled to three representatives, and so on as to each additional representative that any county may be entitled to."

Mr. Taylor held that the true basis of representation was that which would give to every ratio of representation in the State a representative. To adhere to the idea that every county should have a representative would be an injustice in spite of every thing. There had been an attempt to show an analogy between the federal and state forms of government, when there was none. The lines of counties could be wiped out at the will of the legislative power. The proper basis of representation was population. True, it would break down county lines, but it was just.

Mr. Bradfield spoke in favor of the Majority report. Both Minority and Majority reports recognized county representations. Any other plan would disfranchise ten counties in the State. He held that the Minority report would give a House of Representatives of 198 members.

Mr. Boone thought counties were corporations of a kind which had separate rights and interests that were entitled to representation, and that they ought not to be stricken down.

The question was further debated by Messrs. Brockmeyer, Spaunhorst and others, when the Committee rose, and the Convention adjourned till Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.